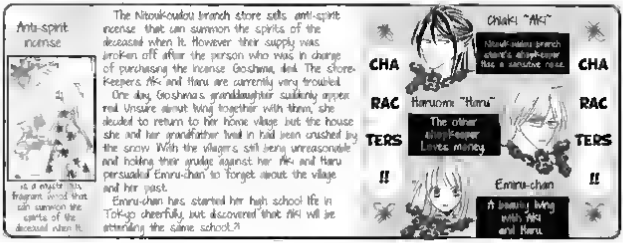
The past, the future and most certainly the present as well. They all come to the surface and then slowly disappear
A love story that gives off a soft fragrance.
ラストノーツ
Along with the wind, the direction of their love will.
CHAPTER 6
une femme sans parfum est une femme sans avenir
桜小路かのこ

I ABANDONED THE VILLAGE THAT RAISED ME,

AND HERE,

I STARTED A NEW LIFE.


Anti-spirit incense
It's a mystic herb fragrant incense that can summon the spirits of the deceased when lit.
The Nitouk-oukou branch store sells anti-spirit incense that can summon the spirits of the deceased when lit. However their supply was broken off after the person who was in charge of purchasing the incense Goshima, died. The store-Keepers Aki and Haru are currently very troubled.
One day, Goshima's granddaughter suddenly appear real. Unsure about living together with them, she decided to return to her home village but the house she and her grandfather lived in had been crushed by the snow. With the villagers still being unreasonable and holding their grudge against her Aki and Haru persuaded Emiru-chan to forget about the village and her past.
Emiru-chan has started her high school life in Tokyo cheerfully, but discovered that Aki will be attending the same school.?
CHARACTERS
Chiaki "Aki"
Nitouk-oukou branch store's shop-keeper has a sensitive nose.
Haruomi "Haru"
The other shop-keeper Loves money
Emiru-chan
A bouncy living with Aki and Haru

AKI-SAN
AH, UM...
BUT EMI-RU-CHAN, YOU'RE NOT GOOD AT BEING IN CROWDS YET.
YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MOVE FORWARD ALONE, RIGHT?
MY HAND...
hair down
clothes changed
skirt shorter→ red
AH,
IT'S A BIT LATE TO SAY THIS NOW, BUT...
a country girl
around here
Emiru-chan!
DROWNED IN THE CROWDED TRAIN AND UNABLE TO GET OFF.
S-SORRY..
FOR NOW, WE CAN ONLY GO TO SCHOOL TO-GETHER.

CONGRATULA-TIONS ON BEING ACCEPTED,
EMIRU-CHAN.
EH,?
AKI-SENPAI?
AH,
THANK YOU VERY MUCH...

YO.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
AND WHY ARE YOU WEARING THE UNIFORM...?
AH, ABOUT THAT...
COULD IT BE YOU HAVE TO REPEAT A YEAR?!
AHAHA_ HAH
EH? AKI-SENPAI?!
EHH, SO SENPAI WILL BE STAYING FOR ANOTHER YEAR?
THAT'S GREAT! ♡
SENPAI AND I ARE IN THE SAME CLASS
AH, HEY, NITOU!
THE NEW TERM STARTED A LONG TIME AGO!
YOU DIDN'T COME TO THE OPENING CEREMONY EITHER.
EH... BUT SENSEI,
DON'T I JUST NEED TO COME FOR THE NUMBER OF DAYS I MISSED LAST YEAR?
YOU IDIOT!
THE ATTENDANCE RATE ISN'T CUMULATIVE.

AKI-SAN HAS SO MANY FRIENDS...!
Ah, it's Aki-senpai!
AND YOUR HAIR IS TOO LONG!
EH
UM, SENPAI...
WHO IS THAT?
And you're holding hands..?
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?!
NO way!
EH?!
NO, I'M...
NO, NO.

SHE'S SOMEONE MORE IMPORTANT THAN A GIRLFRIEND.
EMIRU-CHAN.
Senpai like a brother
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THIS CHILD
GET ALONG WITH HER.
EH~ WHAT'S THAT?
YOU TOO, HURRY OFF TO YOUR CLASS!
DON'T YOU THINK HIS GIRLFRIEND LOOKS CUTE?

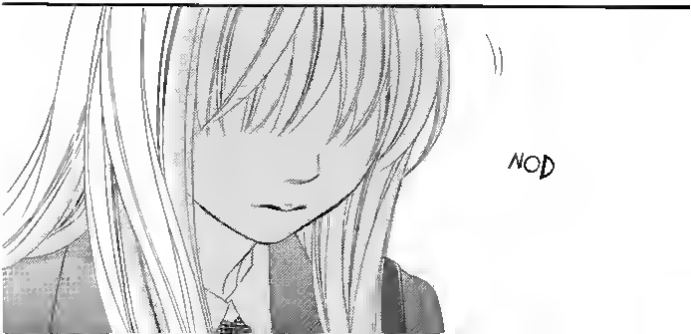
...I'LL TELL YOU THIS FIRST.
The use of mobile phones is prohibited in the school so do it secretly.
AH, OKAY. Sorry.
I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU, SO KEEP IN CONTACT, OKAY?
LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER TOO.
THIS SCHOOL HAS A MIDDLE SCHOOL SECTION.
HALF OF THE STUDENTS CAME DIRECTLY FROM THERE.
EVEN WITHOUT THAT, YOU TRANSFERRED HERE TWO WEEKS LATE, SO THE TIMING IS A BIT AWKWARD.
IT MIGHT BE A BIT HARD,
BUT DO TRY TO GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE.

FRIENDS.
EH...
EMIRU-CHAN, YOU'VE ALREADY BROKEN OFF THOSE UNNECESSARY RELATIONSHIPS, RIGHT?
YES
IN THAT VILLAGE,
THE PEOPLE WHO HATE AND IGNORE ME.
I THINK THEY'RE LIKE ANTS.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR EMIRU-CHAN TO BE IMPRISONED IN THAT VILLAGE BY THEM.
BUT,
TO MAKE UP FOR THAT,
YOU MUST BUILD NEW RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEOPLE.

NEW...

...RELATIONSHIPS...

FRIENDS.



EH?
YOU'RE BRAVER THAN I THOUGHT.
I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY YOU'RE FINE BEING ALONE.
...
AL-THOU-GH ..
...THAT'S WHAT I ALWAYS THOUGHT.
I THINK ..
IF SOMEONE SO GENTLE EXISTS,
THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE HERE.
THERE MIGHT BE SOMEONE WHO COULD BE MY FRIEND.
IT MIGHT NOT BE A BAD THING TO BE WITH PEOPLE...
I'M REALLY HAPPY...
SINCE I MET YOU AND HARU-SAN,
YOU GUYS HAVE HELPED ME OUT A LOT.

I WANT TO TRY HARD. .
... WITH EVERY-THING POSSIBLE
HOW ABOUT THIS?
EH?!
TODAY, BRING A FRIEND...
...TO WHERE I'LL BE WAI-TING FOR YOU!
TO... TODAY?
WITH THIS SPIRIT OF YOURS,
YOU'LL TRY YOUR BEST, RIGHT?
MM

GOOD LUCK.
PAT
NO...
...OKAY
She probably wanted to say "No, I can't."
AH ..
WHO'S YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER?
THEN LET'S GO TO THE OFFICE.
I WILL...
...BE REBORN HERE.

COMMOTION
COMMOTION
HEY,
HAVE YOU SEEN THE GIRL WHO TRANSFERRED INTO CLASS C?
SUPER CUTE!
SO WHITE AND PETITE.
She looks doable.
SHE PROBABLY HAS A LOT OF ADMIRERS
BUT I HEARD SHE CAME TO SCHOOL HAND-IN-HAND WITH AKI-SENPAI ..
HEY, UM,
ARE YOU CALLED GOSHIMA-SAN?

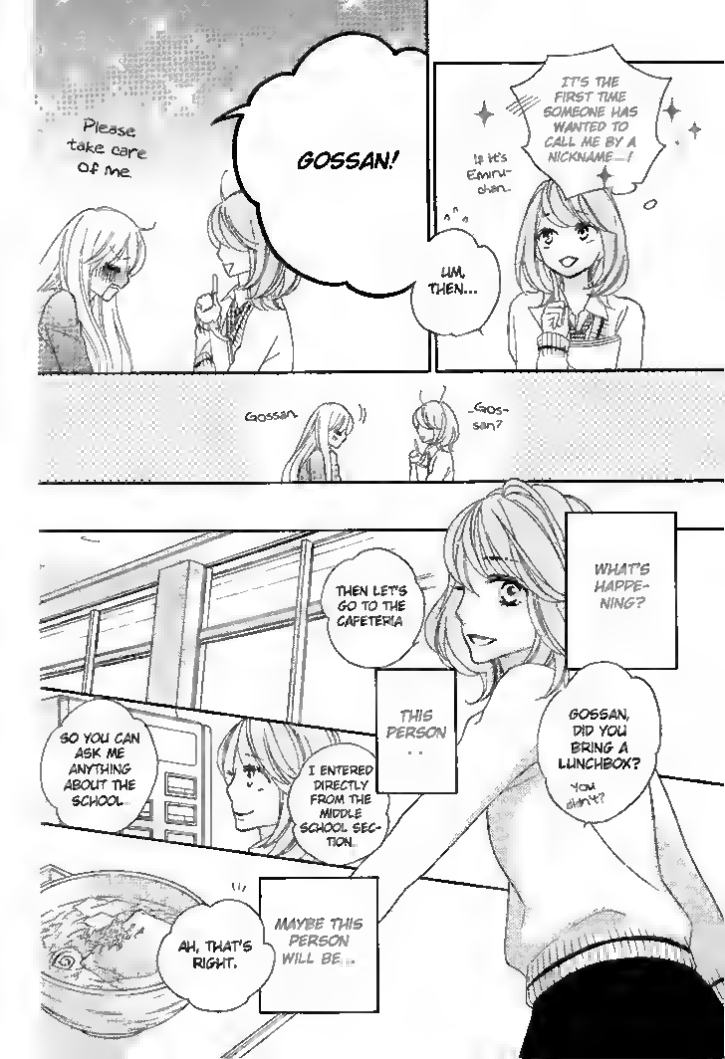
TH-
THEY'RE TALKING TO ME...
YOU CAME TOGETHER WITH AKI-SENPAI THIS MORNING, RIGHT?
DO YOU KNOW HIM?
ARE YOU CLOSE?
NOD
NOD
ARE YOU GUYS DATING?
SHAKE
SHAKE
MAY I ASK, DO YOU KNOW AKI-SAN?
Why is she talking so formally?
EVERYONE KNOWS HIM.
JUST LIKE HARU-SENPAI, WHO GRADUATED.
THEY'RE HANDSOME, AND THEIR FATHER IS THE PRESIDENT OF A BIG COMPANY.
THEY'VE BEEN REALLY FAMOUS SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

AH... I WONDER IF AKI-SENPAI HAS A GIRLFRIEND OR NOT
SHAKE
SHAKE
DO YOU KNOW?
BUT HARU-SENPAI HAD A WHOLE LOT OF GIRL-FRIENDS
IS THAT SO..?
Ama-zing
HE BROKE UP WITH HER AS WELL...
SHE'S THE SENPAI WHO WORKS AS A READER MODEL
HE FOUND ANOTHER ONE RIGHT AFTER THAT.
..I HEARD THEY BROKE UP AT THE END OF YEAR.
EH, BUT..
AKI-SAN HAVING A GIRL-FRIEND...
"DON'T YOU THINK HIS GIRLFRIEND LOOKS CUTE?"
...IS THAT SO?
YOU'RE RIGHT
sigh
But..
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, AKI-SENPAI PROBABLY HAS A GIRL-FRIEND TOO, RIGHT?

SORRY,
WE WERE NOISY.
EH?
AH...
IT'S NOTHING STRANGE, EVEN IF HE DOES ..
...
DO YOU HATE THIS KIND OF TOPIC?
EH?
SHE DIDN'T ANSWER US
NO..
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T LIKE GOSSIP LIKE THAT
...

I RUINED IT...
...
I WASN'T ABLE TO TALK PROPERLY WITH THEM...
I WASN'T ...
RUMBLE X3
ガラガラガラガラ
(The sound of her inner self closing up)
I FEEL LIKE I CAN'T MAKE ANY...
FRIENDS ...
GOSHIMA-SAN!
I WAS ALONE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL BACK AT THE VILLAGE TOO
I HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED TALKING WITH "FRIENDS"...

WE'RE GOING TO THE NEXT CLASS NOW
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE CHEMISTRY ROOM IS?
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE
UM, THAT ...
NA-
NANA-CHAN...
GOSHIMA-SAN, YOUR NAME IS REALLY CUTE
WHAT SHOULD I CALL YOU?
EH?
YOU CAN CALL ME NANA?
I'M NOZAKI NANAKO.


Please take care of me
GOSSAN!
UM, THEN...
IT'S THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE HAS WANTED TO CALL ME BY A NICKNAME...!
Is it Emiru-chan...
Gossan
-Gos-san?
WHAT'S HAPPENING?
GOSSAN, DID YOU BRING A LUNCHBOX?
You didn't?
THIS PERSON . .
THEN LET'S GO TO THE CAFETERIA
I ENTERED DIRECTLY FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL SECTION.
SO YOU CAN ASK ME ANYTHING ABOUT THE SCHOOL.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
MAYBE THIS PERSON WILL BE...

...THE ONE PERSON AMONG MANY.
WANT TO EXCHANGE PHONE NUMBERS?
UM, BUT...
Don't give out our contact details to anyone!
AH, I WON'T MAKE YOU TELL ME...
BUT IF I FAIL AGAIN...
I ONLY JUST BOUGHT THIS RECENTLY.
My phone.
LET ME BORROW IT.
hi hello you
WHAT? YOU ONLY HAVE TWO PEOPLE IN YOUR CONTACT LIST...?
All Contacts
Aki-san
Haru-san
WAH, TWO VALUABLE PEOPLE!
BECAUSE IT'S ABOUT PRIVACY.
NO MATTER HOW CLOSE A FRIEND, THINGS LIKE THAT AREN'T ACCEPTABLE.

The scene in her heart. Sandro Botticelli's "Spring"
I HAVE A FRIEND.
FRIEND.
AKI-SAN, I DID IT!
NANA-CHAN...
...IS SUCH A GOOD PERSON ...!
AH...

UM, NANA-CHAN,
IF IT'S ALL RIGHT,
CAN YOU COME WITH ME FOR A BIT AFTER SCHOOL?
EH?
UM...
AH, IT'S NOZAKI.
THE ONE WITH HER IS THE NEW TRANSFER STUDENT?
..EH...
NOZAKI'S BAD HABIT IS SHOWING ITSELF AGAIN...

AKI-SAN,
IT'S NOT ON THE WAY HOME...
THIS SHOP IS EASY TO FIND, RIGHT?
EMIRU-CHAN,
OVER HERE
Jin-san
EMIRU-CHAN'S SAYING THE SAME THING AS JIN-SAN.
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME TO MY SHOP IN UNI-FORM, AND NOW THERE'S ANO-THER ONE ...
UM... AKI-SAN
I'M ONLY TWENTY!
YOU THINK YOU'RE ALMI-GHTY JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE FORTY?!
WHAT?!
BRATS SHOULD JUST GO TO MCDO-NALD'S

OH!
YOU BROUGHT A FRIEND, HUH?
WELL DONE
RUB
RUB
AH... THIS IS...
I'M NOZAKI NANAKO.
NOZAKI-SAN, HUH?
I'M...
Aki watch how you're sitting.
I KNOW AKI-SENPAI!

WAAH! I'M REALLY EXCITED BEING ABLE TO CHAT WITH AKI-SENPAI
THIS IS WHAT EVERYONE HAS LONGED FOR SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL
DOES SENPAI COME HERE A LOT?
IT HAS SUCH A NICE ATMOSPHERE
glance..
PFUU
Good, right?
My friend! How's that?
HOPING TO BE PRAISED
AH,
I'M GOING TO THE WASHROOM
ku
ku
ku

GOSSAN IS REALLY CUTE...
I DON'T GET HER...
SHE ASKED ME TO CALL HER THAT...
GOS-SAN?
Serious?
...SENPAI,
DO YOU HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND?

I HEARD FROM GOSSAN...
THAT THE TWO OF YOU AREN'T DATING?
...WHY DO YOU ASK?
DON'T BE MAD, PLEASE.
ISN'T SENPAI VERY POPULAR?
IF SHE STAYS BESIDE SOMEONE LIKE SENPAI,
I DON'T THINK GOSSAN WILL BE ABLE TO GET A BOYFRIEND,
AND THE FRIENDS SHE MAKES WILL ONLY BE BECAUSE OF AKI-SENPAI.
...THOUGH I'M NOT LIKE THAT.

ISN'T IT BETTER TO STAY AWAY FROM GOSSAN?
ISN'T THAT BAD FOR HER?
MENU
PLEASE THINK ABOUT IT, SENPAI
I'LL BE LEAVING FIRST, THEN
Thank you for the drink.
FOR GOSSAN'S SAKE,

SHE FOUND HERSELF A TROUBLESOME FRIEND...

Should I call her to apologize?
PANIC
DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?
You only went to the washroom.
IS IT BECAUSE I WENT TO THE WASHROOM?
WHY DID NANA-CHAN GO HOME...?
SHE SAID SHE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING SO SHE HAD TO LEAVE FIRST.
PANIC

ラストノーツ
YOUR HAND!
AH, MONEY FOR THE TEA...
YOU CAN'T WALK THROUGH THE CROWD, RIGHT?
HM?
WHAT A CUTE COUPLE!
HEY, LOOK OVER THERE.

PEOPLE WILL MISUNDER-STAND...
AKI-SAN, IS THIS OKAY?
WE'RE NOT, WE'RE NOT...
BUT HE SAID...
"I'LL TREASURE EMIRU-CHAN FOR JII-SAN."
IT'S JUST BECAUSE HE WANTS TO PAY JII-CHAN BACK
"SOMEONE WHO'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN A GIRLFRIEND."
AKI-SAN'S BEEN NICE TO ME ALL THIS TIME.
EMIRU-CHAN, GIVE ME YOUR BAG.
NO...

WOW, IT REALLY IS HEAVY
I thought it looked heavy
COULD IT BE THAT YOU BROUGHT ALL YOUR TEXT-BOOKS?
BECAUSE I WANT TO STUDY AT HOME...
WOW!
HE IS NOT BEING NICE TO ME ALONE.
HERE, YOU TAKE MINE
EH...?
COME ON, TAKE IT.
...IT'S SO LIGHT.
THAT'S BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING INSIDE

AKI-SAN BEING SO POPULAR...
...IS PROBABLY BECAUSE HE'S FRIENDLY TO EVERYONE.
WHAT IS IT?
THIS FEELING...
..NOT TO THINK ABOUT IT...
IT'S BETTER...

EMIRU-CHAN.
AH! YES?
DO YOU WANT TO FIND A BOY-FRIEND?
SMILED!
...HUH?
A BOY-FRIEND
A... BOY...
A BOY-FRIEND
NOT JUST A FRIEND-SHIP.
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LOVE?
I...
I'LL PASS...

Heh...
NOTHING, JUST TALKING TO MYSELF.
WH-
WHAT...?
IS THAT SO?
WE LIVE UNDER THE SAME ROOF, AND I WANT TO GET ALONG WITH HIM.
BUT I DON'T THINK I UNDERSTAND AKI-SAN VERY WELL YET.
I WONDER IF AKI-SAN HAS A GIRLFRIEND
IT FEELS LIKE HE DOESN'T,
BUT MAYBE I'M JUST TOO DENSE TO SEE IT.

THAT IS ALSO A SIDE OF AKI-SAN.
IT SEEMED LIKE HE BECAME ANOTHER PERSON...
THAT DAY...
...WHEN HE SCOLDED TAKE-KUN.

I WANT TO...
...UNDERSTAND THIS PERSON MORE...
PORK RICE
it's yummy, oink!
IT'S EATING ITS OWN KIND, HUH?
WHAT IS AKI LIKE?
UNDER THAT SMILE,

AKI'S GIRL-FRIEND?
I DON'T THINK HE HAS ONE
COULDN'T SHE HAVE BOUGHT SOMETHING OTHER THAN CLOTHES LIKE MIDDLE-AGED WOMEN WEAR TO COOK.?
MIX
MIX
IS THAT SO...?
glance...
AH...
MY CLASS-MATES ASKED ME
WHY?
BUT HE PRO-BABLY RECEI-VES A LOT OF CONFESSIONS FROM TIME TO TIME

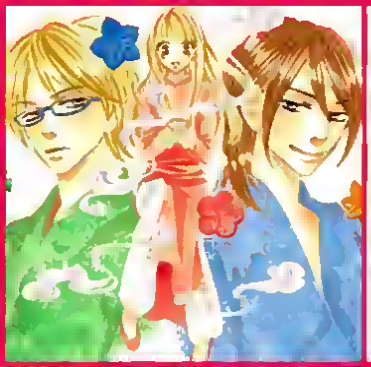
SPEAKING OF WHICH,
HARU-SAN AND AKI-SAN ARE BROTHERS OF THE SAME YEAR.
BUT THEIR BIRTHDAYS ARE DIFFERENT.
AND THEY LOOK DIFFERENT. .
I WONDER IF I CAN ASK WHY THAT IS? ?
WHAT?
AH...
LUM-
KNOCK KNOCK
YOUR DELIVERY IS HERE.
AHHH
I'LL GET THE DOOR.

IT'S A PARCEL FOR NITOU CHIAKI-SAN
EH?
THE SENDER DIDN'T PUT HIS ADDRESS
YOSHI-HIRO...?
AH.. IT SMELLS GOOD
I'm starving
IS THERE ANYTHING YOU NEED HELP WITH?
AH
AKI, THIS ..
!
FOR ME?
flip

T/N: It's not always obvious how names written in kanji are meant to be read, so although the name is Mihiro, it seems Emiru initially misread it as Yoshihiro
MIHIRO?!
CLAT
TER
EH...?
ISN'T THAT ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE?
THE ONE THAT SUMMONED JII-CHAN WASN'T THE LAST ONE?

NO...
AH.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE THAT PERSON IS...
AKI, IS IT THAT WOMAN AGAIN?!
HARU,
ENOUGH ALREADY!
I...
...
"THAT PERSON"...

SOMEONE WHO CAN MAKE AKI SHOW SUCH AN EXPRESSION..
IT SEEMS TO BE SOMEONE WHO EXCHANGES ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE WITH AKI.
美紘
WHO IS THIS : "MIHIRO"...?
TO BE CONTINUED



Last Note - Chapter 6

by Sakurakouji Kanoko

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